

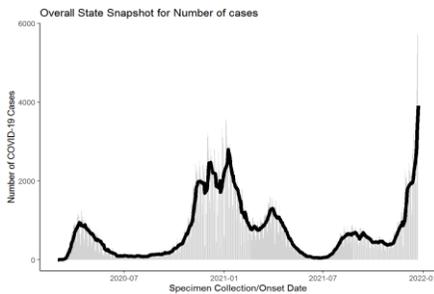
## COVID-19 Update December 30, 2021

As of **December 29, 2021**, the total of laboratory-confirmed and probable COVID-19 cases reported among Connecticut residents is **510188**, including **457827** laboratory-confirmed and **52361** probable cases. **One thousand one hundred fifty-one** patients are currently hospitalized with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19; of these, **819** (71.2%) are not fully vaccinated. There have been **9160** COVID-19-associated deaths.

Overall Summary	Total*	Change Since Yesterday
COVID-19 Cases (confirmed and probable)	510188	+7704
COVID-19 Tests Reported (molecular and antigen)	13480648	+37891
Daily Test Positivity*		20.33%
Patients Currently Hospitalized with COVID-19	1151	+38
COVID-19-Associated Deaths	9160	+83

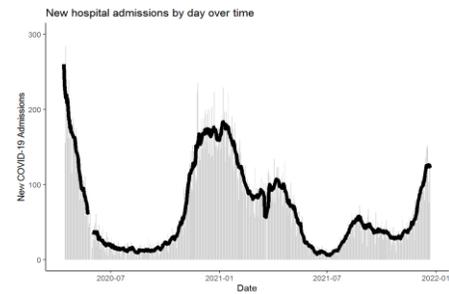
\*\*Includes confirmed plus probable cases

### Cases



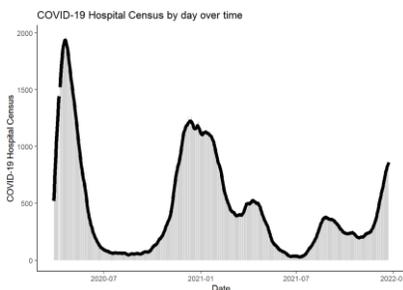
**Total Cases: 510,188**

### Hospitalizations



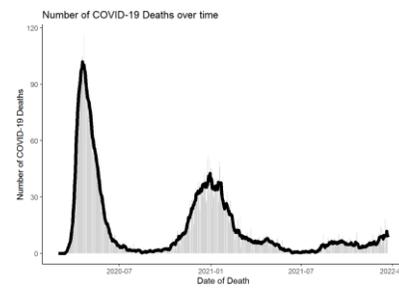
**Total Hospitalizations: 45,319**

### Hospital Census



**Hospital Census: 12/29/2021: 1151**

### Deaths



**Total Deaths: 9,160**

**COVID-19 Cases and Associated Deaths by County of Residence as of 12/29/21.**

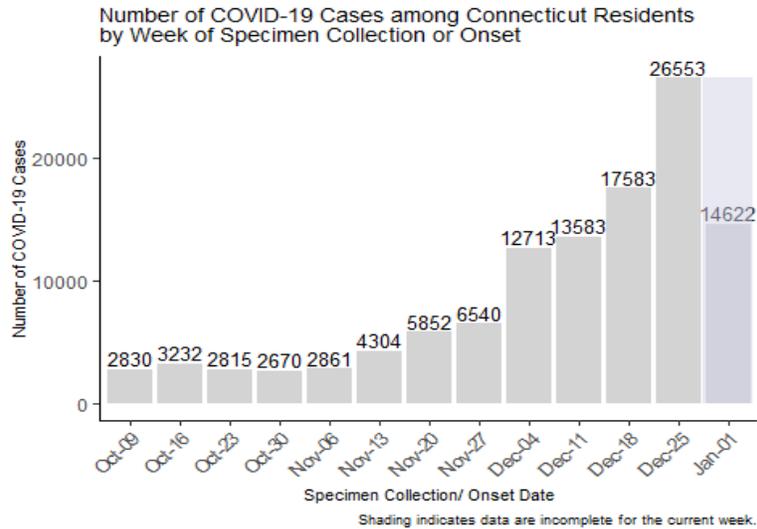
County	COVID-19 Cases		COVID-19-Associated Deaths	
	Confirmed	Probable	Confirmed	Probable
Fairfield County	124,546	15,715	1,894	461
Hartford County	113,654	10,891	2,210	486
Litchfield County	19,438	3,010	319	52
Middlesex County	17,042	1,826	308	106
New Haven County	118,285	15,384	2,010	332
New London County	33,286	2,848	399	123
Tolland County	13,121	1,468	162	49
Windham County	16,841	953	193	54
Pending address validation	1,614	266	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>457827</b>	<b>52361</b>	<b>7496</b>	<b>1664</b>

[National COVID-19 statistics](#) and information about [preventing spread of COVID-19](#) are available from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

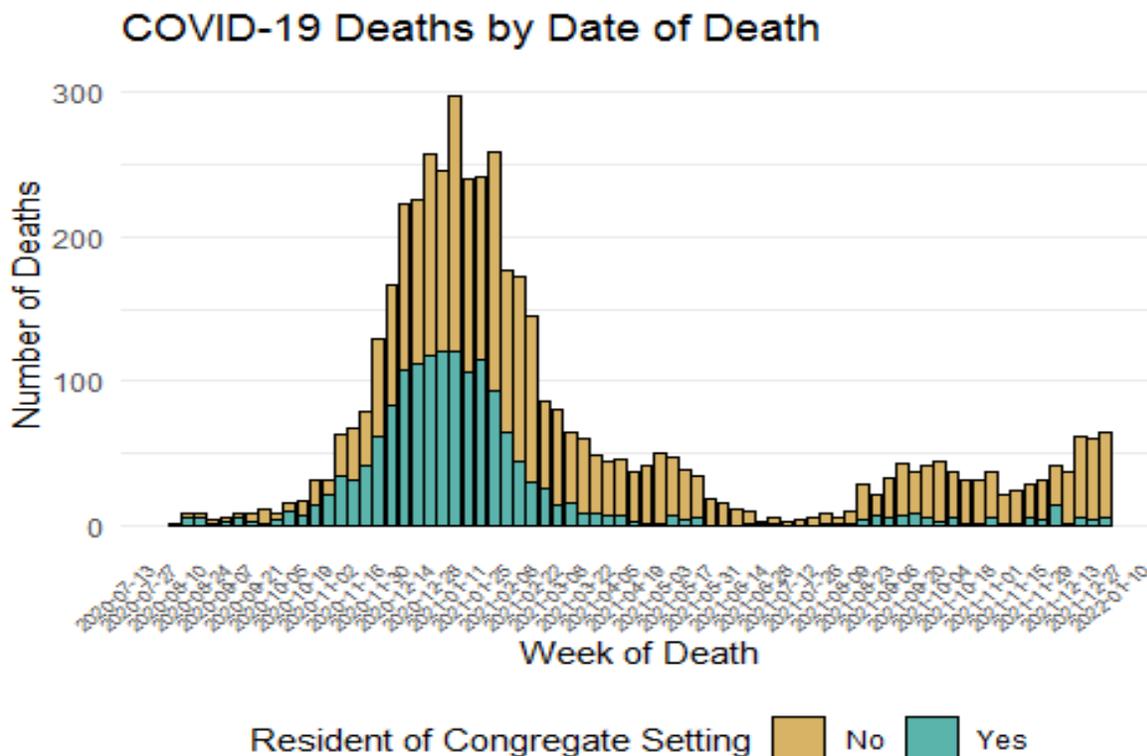
**Day-to-day changes reflect newly reported cases, deaths, and tests that occurred over the last several days to week.** All data in this report are preliminary; data for previous dates will be updated as new reports are received and data errors are corrected. Hospitalization data were collected by the Connecticut Hospital Association. Deaths reported to either OCME or DPH are included in the daily COVID-19 update.

## COVID-19 Cases and Deaths Over Time

The chart below shows the number of new COVID-19 cases reported to CT DPH by week of specimen collection or onset of illness. Case data now includes probable cases based on positive antigen test results. During the past two weeks (December 12-25), there were 44,136 new COVID-19 cases, including cases among people residing in the community and congregate settings, such as nursing homes, managed residential communities, and correctional facilities.



The graph below shows the number of COVID-19 associated deaths since August 1, 2020 by week of death and whether the person was residing in a congregate setting, such as a nursing home, managed residential community, or correctional facility.



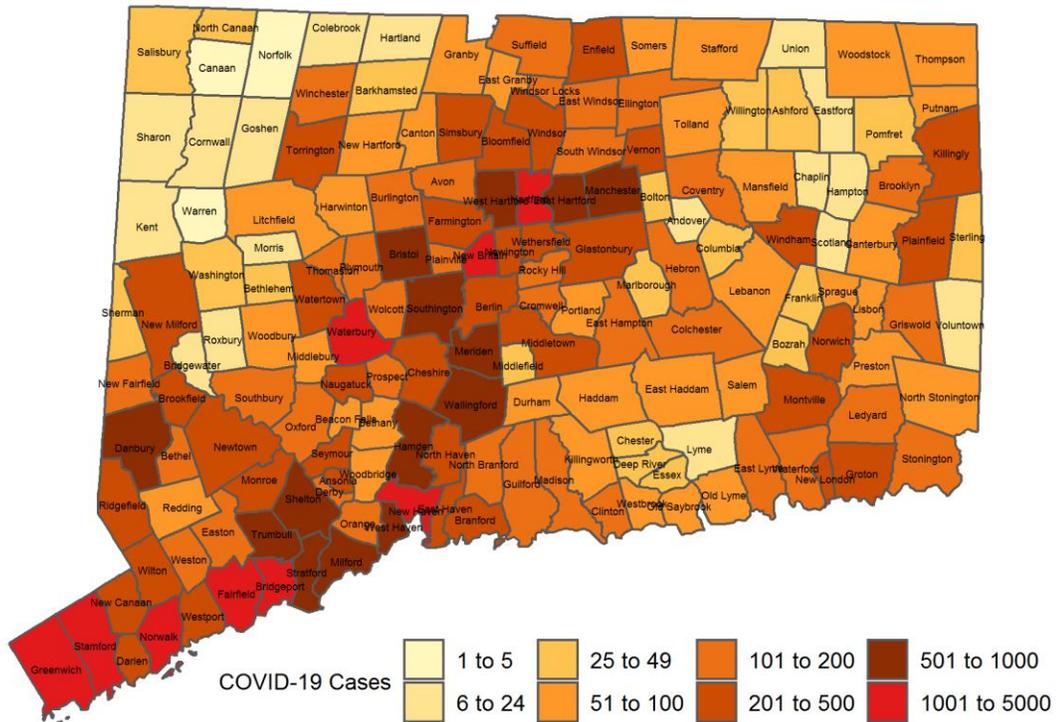
All data are preliminary and subject to change.

## Community Transmission of COVID-19

Among 44,136 new COVID-19 cases with specimen collection or onset date during December 12-25, there were 44,059 cases among people living in community settings, as shown in the map below. This corresponds to an average of 88.27 new COVID-19 cases per day per 100,000 population. Cases among people residing in nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and correctional facilities are excluded. Darker colors indicate towns with more cases.

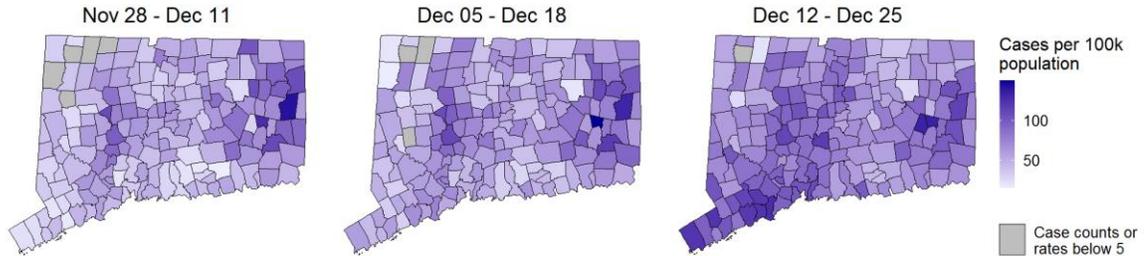
During this two-week period, there were more than 100 new COVID-19 cases in 96 towns.

Number of COVID-19 Cases among People Living in Community Settings by Town with Specimen Collection or Onset Date During December 12-25



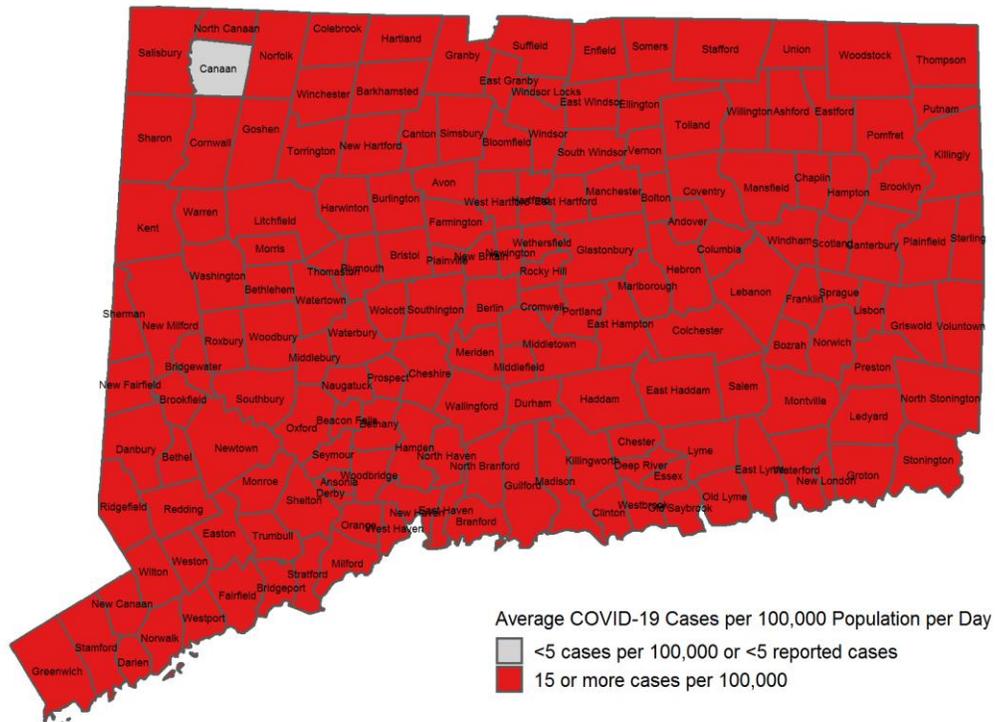
Map does not include 214 cases pending address validation

Because towns with larger populations are likely to have more cases, it is also important to look at the number of new cases per 100,000 population. The maps below show the average number of new cases per 100,000 population per day, with darker colors indicating higher rates. Cases among people residing in nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and correctional facilities are excluded.



Among towns with at least 5 new cases during December 12-25, 168 towns had an average rate of 15 or more cases per 100,000 population per day, shown in red in the map below.

Average Daily Rate of COVID-19 Cases among People Living in Community Settings per 100,000 Population by Town with Specimen Collection or Onset Date During December 12-25



Map does not include 214 cases pending address validation

## Epidemiology of COVID-19 by Vaccine Status

### Methodology

Since February 2021, cases of COVID-19 among fully vaccinated persons (e.g., vaccine breakthrough cases) were identified based on a medical provider report to DPH identifying such cases. Recently, DPH developed a process that matches COVID-19 case data with the vaccine registry to determine which cases meet the definition of being fully vaccinated and are also vaccine breakthrough cases. A case of COVID-19 in a fully vaccinated person (e.g., vaccine breakthrough case) is defined as a person who has a positive PCR/NAAT or antigen test in a respiratory specimen collected  $\geq 14$  days after completing the final dose of an FDA-authorized or approved COVID-19 vaccine series and who did not have a previously positive COVID-19 test  $< 45$  days prior to the positive test currently under investigation. As of October 21, 2021, the methodology for identifying cases among fully vaccinated persons has been updated to reflect current CDC guidance for which persons should be considered fully vaccinated:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html#annex>.

### Data

As of **December 29, 2021**, 58212 cases of COVID-19 among fully vaccinated persons in Connecticut have been identified. Of the 2513612 persons who are fully vaccinated, 2.32 percent have contracted the virus.

Two hundred seventy-six COVID-19 related deaths have occurred among the 58,212 fully vaccinated persons confirmed with COVID-19. These deaths represent 16.6% of all COVID-19 deaths since 2/9/2021.

The table below shows cases and deaths among fully vaccinated persons by age group.

**Cases and Deaths Among Fully Vaccinated Persons by Age Group**

Age groups	# (%) Cases	# (%) Deaths
5-11	169 (0.3%)	
12-15	1,636 (2.8%)	
16-24	7,519 (12.9%)	
25-34	10,189 (17.5%)	1 (0.4%)
35-44	10,288 (17.7%)	1 (0.4%)
45-54	10,161 (17.5%)	7 (2.5%)
55-64	9,669 (16.6%)	28 (10.1%)
65-74	4,942 (8.5%)	40 (14.5%)
75+	3,639 (6.3%)	199 (72.1%)
TOTAL	58,212	276

The figures below show the difference in COVID-19 case rates, death rates and hospitalization rates based on the vaccine status of affected persons from September–December 2021. For hospitalizations, data from [COVID-NET](#), which focuses on hospitalizations among residents of New Haven and Middlesex counties, are used because they are the most complete and up-to-date.

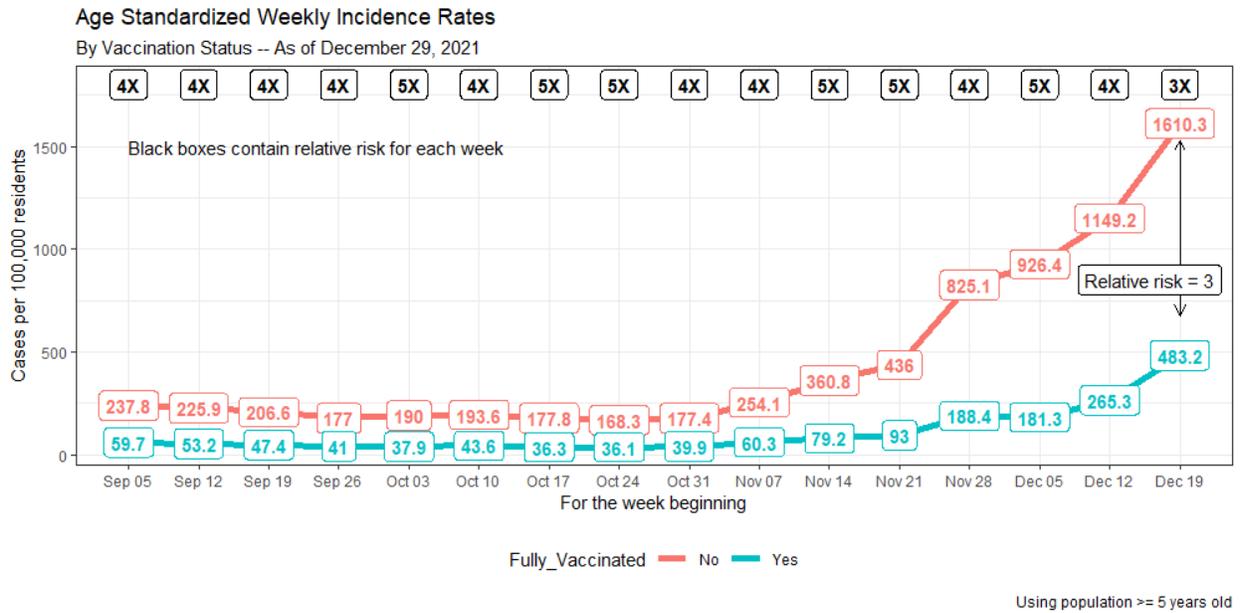
The risk of being infected, hospitalized or dying from COVID-19 has changed over time. The risk is higher when there is more virus spreading from person to person; being vaccinated against COVID-19 decreases the risk. The figures below show that COVID-19 case rates, hospitalization rates and death rates have increased the most among unvaccinated persons. The figures also show the relative risk (RR) which is the difference in risk when comparing rates between vaccinated and unvaccinated persons. When the relative risk is InfX, it means the risk was only for unvaccinated persons, since no deaths were reported among vaccinated persons that week.

As of October 14, 2021, the plots below are age standardized. The process of age-standardization allows for comparison of rates between groups when the age distributions of the two groups (e.g., vaccinated and unvaccinated) are different. The 2019 CT state population was used for age-adjustment purposes.

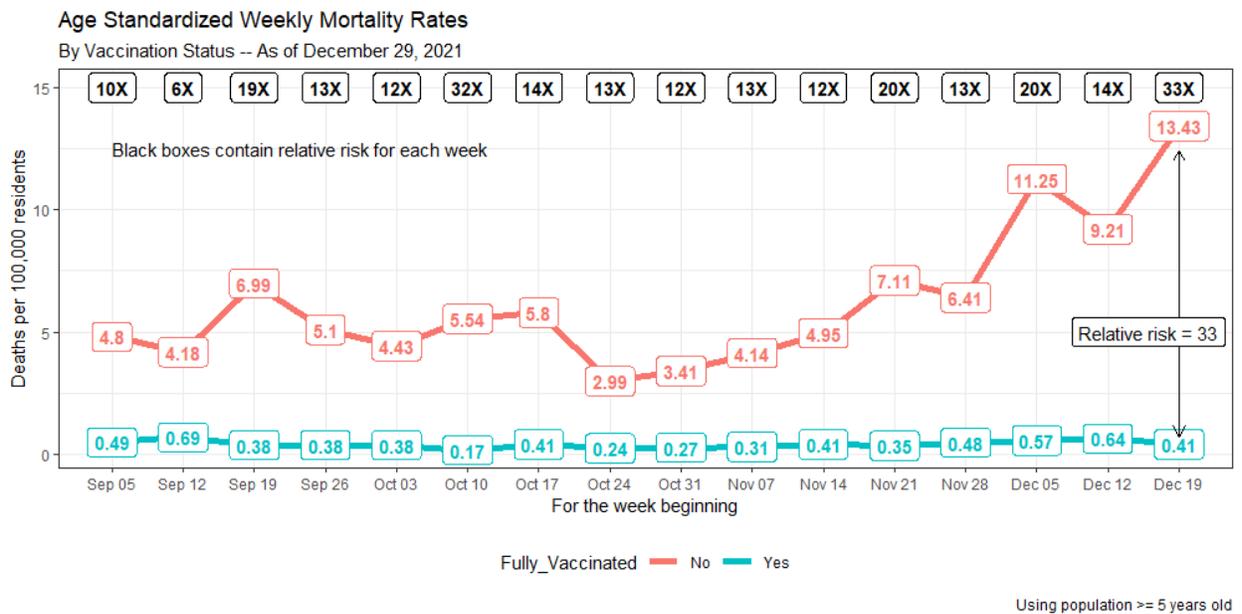
Compared to being vaccinated, being unvaccinated currently has the following relative risk:

- 3 Times higher risk of being infected with COVID-19
- 33 Times higher risk of dying from COVID-19
- 12 Times higher risk of being hospitalized with COVID-19

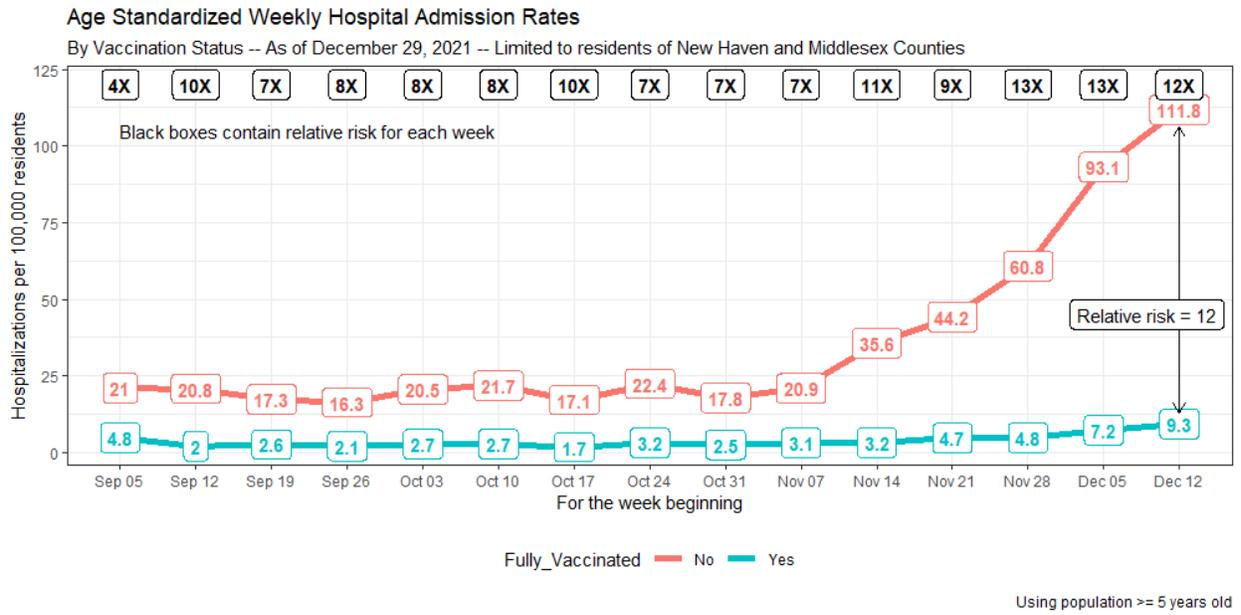
## COVID-19 Cases



## COVID-19 Deaths



# COVID-19 Hospitalizations



## SARS-CoV-2 Variant Surveillance

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have identified three types of SARS-CoV-2 variants: variants of concern, variants being monitored, and variants of high consequence. The definitions for the three different variant categories and substitutions of therapeutic concern can be found here: [SARS-CoV-2 Variants of Concern | CDC](#).

Different terminology has been developed by international scientists for naming SARS-CoV-2 variants. Recently, the World Health Organization (WHO) developed new labels for describing these variants to the public. Below, both the Pango lineage and sub-lineages (used by CDC) and the WHO label are listed (if available) for each variant described.

Data provided are from the Global Initiative for Sharing Avian Influenza Data (GISAID). GISAID is a global science initiative established in 2008 that provides open-access to genomic data of influenza viruses and the SARS-CoV-2 virus responsible for the COVID-19 pandemic. Laboratories performing whole genome sequencing are encouraged to share their data on this website. More information about GISAID can be found at [GISAID - Initiative](#). This data source provides the ability to monitor all variants of the SARS-CoV-2 virus that are circulating and might be identified in the future.

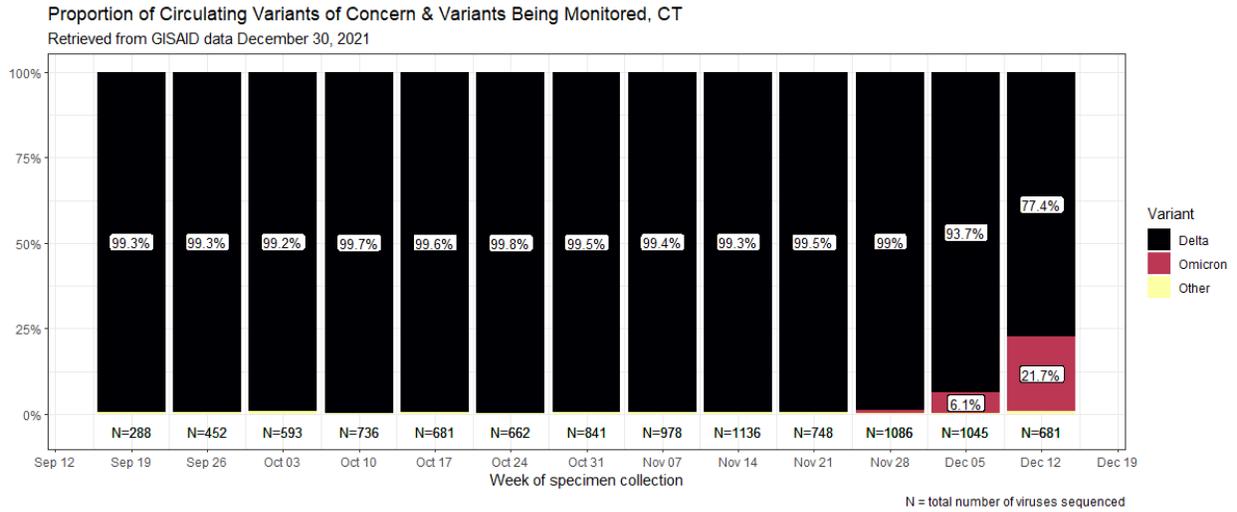
Below are data on variants of concern and variants being monitored identified among Connecticut residents. No variants of high consequence have been defined by CDC to date.

Data are from GISAID as of 12/30/2021 and represent sequences from specimens with dates of collection from 3/2/2020–12/18/2021. **The total number of SARS-CoV-2 sequences in GISAID for Connecticut residents are 24,157.**

	Number	Percentage
<b>Variants of Concern</b>		
B.1.617.2 and AY lineages (Delta)	15,389	63.7%
B.1.1.529 and BA lineages (Omicron)	219	1.0%
<b>Variants Being Monitored</b>		
B.1.1.7 and Q lineages (Alpha)	3,525	14.6%
B.1.351 and descendent lineages (Beta)	42	0.2%
P.1 and descendent lineages (Gamma)	222	1.0%
B.1.427/429 (Epsilon)	218	1.0%
B.1.525 (Eta)	21	0.1%
B.1.526 (Iota)	1,594	6.6%
B.1.617.1 (Kappa)	7	0.03%
B.1.617.3	0	0%
B.1.621, B.1.621.1 (Mu)	122	0.5%
P.2 (Zeta)	9	0.4%

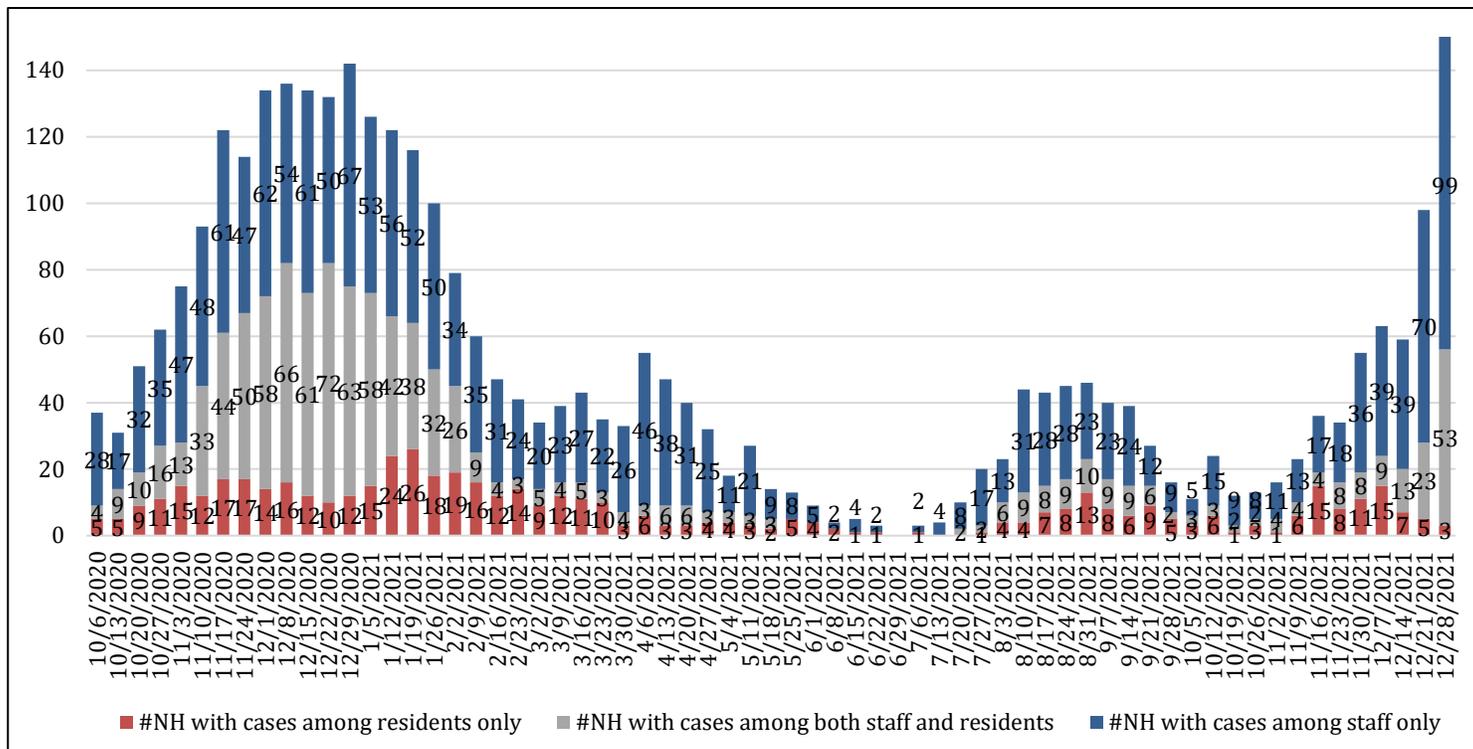
### SARS-CoV-2 Variant Surveillance, continued.

The plot below, based on data extracted from GISAID on 12/30/2021, shows the change in proportion of circulating variants of concern by week. Data include sequences from specimens with dates of collection from 3/2/2020–12/18/2021.



Connecticut nursing homes are required by the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to report on the impact of COVID-19 on their residents and staff through CDC’s National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN). CT DPH uses data submitted to NHSN to produce a weekly nursing home report to depict recent COVID-19 activity in nursing homes. The following graph and table provide a quick overview of COVID-19 in CT nursing homes. For the complete DPH nursing home report, please see [Nursing Home and Assisted Living Facilities Data](#).

**Figure 1. Nursing Homes with Positive Staff or Residents October 27, 2020–December 28, 2021<sup>1,2,3</sup>**



<sup>1</sup> For more detailed information on COVID-19 reporting and NHSN, please see [here](#).

<sup>2</sup> Similar to DPH, CMS makes COVID-19 nursing home data, including vaccination rates, publicly available. Please see [CMS' COVID-19 Nursing Home Data website](#).

<sup>3</sup> 19 facilities did not report for this week, as of December 30, 2021.

**Table 1: Statewide COVID-19 Vaccination coverage among nursing home residents and staff from NHSN<sup>1,2</sup>**

	Statewide COVID-19 Vaccination Rate Data as of December 19, 2021	
	Resident Vaccination Rates N= 203 homes	Staff Vaccination Rates N= 204 homes
Average Vaccination Rate	92%	96%
Median Vaccination Rate	94%	97%
Range of Vaccination Rates	71-100%	83-100%
% of the reporting nursing homes with vaccination rate ≥ 90%	78%	92%

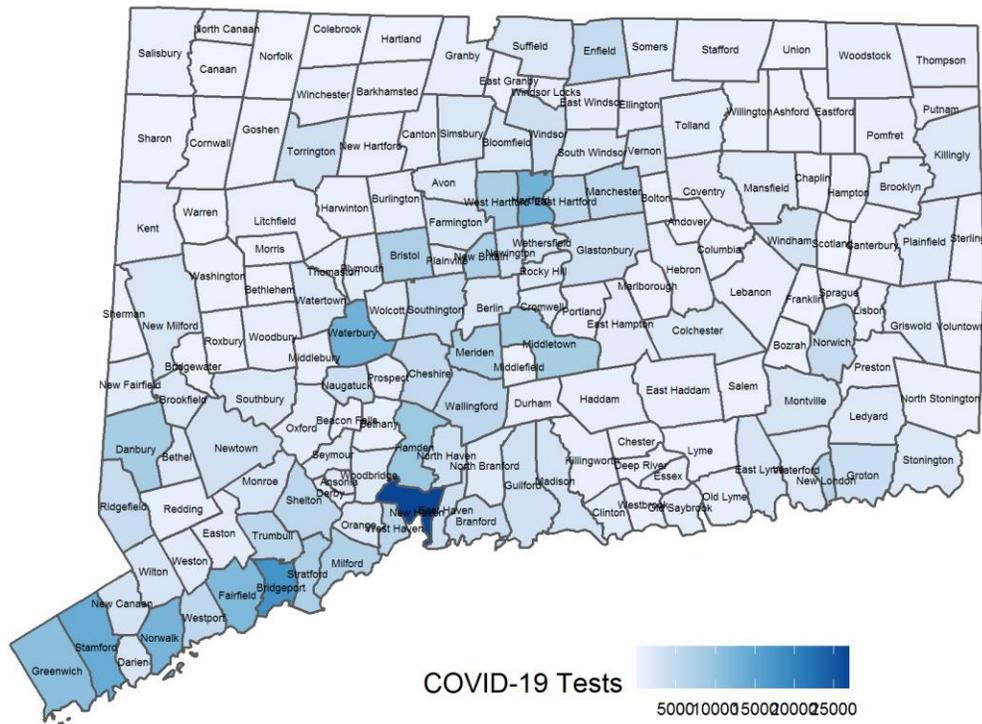
<sup>1</sup> NHSN vaccine reporting instructions for nursing homes can be found [here](#).

<sup>2</sup> Similar to DPH, CMS makes COVID-19 nursing home data, including vaccination rates, publicly available. Please see [CMS' COVID-19 Nursing Home Data website](#).

## COVID-19 Molecular and Antigen Tests during December 12-25

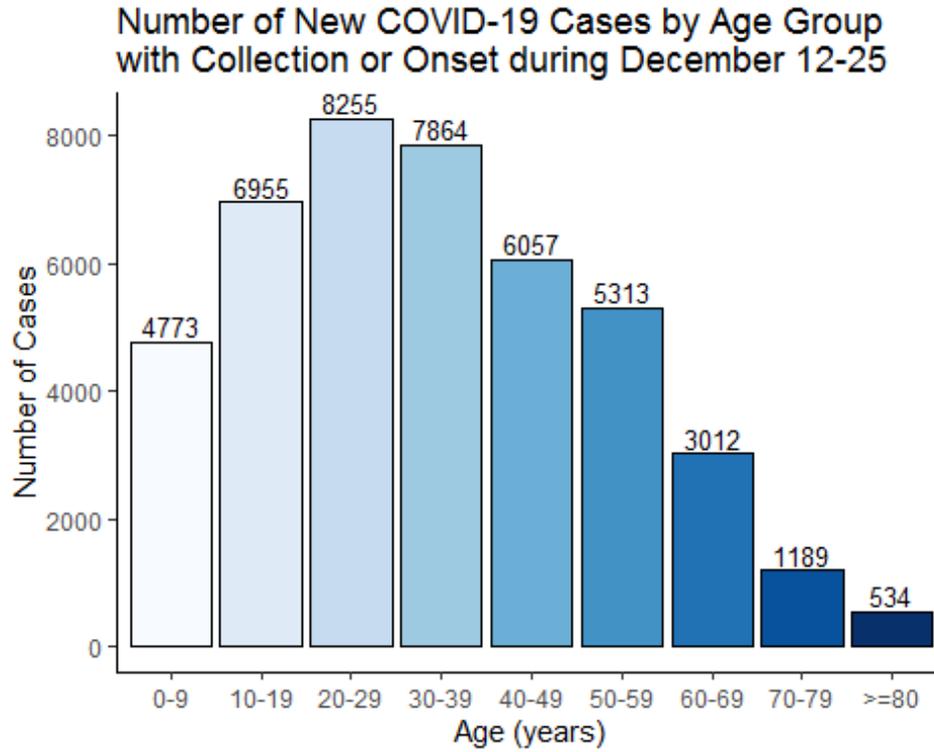
Among 455293 molecular and antigen tests for COVID-19 with specimen collection date during December 12-25, 438659 (96%) tests were conducted among people who did not reside in congregate settings (including nursing homes, assisted living, and correctional facilities). Of these 438659 tests, 52087 (12%) were positive. The map below shows the number of molecular and antigen COVID-19 tests by town with specimen collection date during December 12-25 that were conducted among community residents.

Number of Molecular and Antigen Tests for COVID-19 among People Living in Community Settings by Town with Specimen Collection Date During December 12-25



Map does not include tests pending address validation

Age Distribution of COVID-19 Cases with Specimen Collection or Onset During December 12-25, 2021

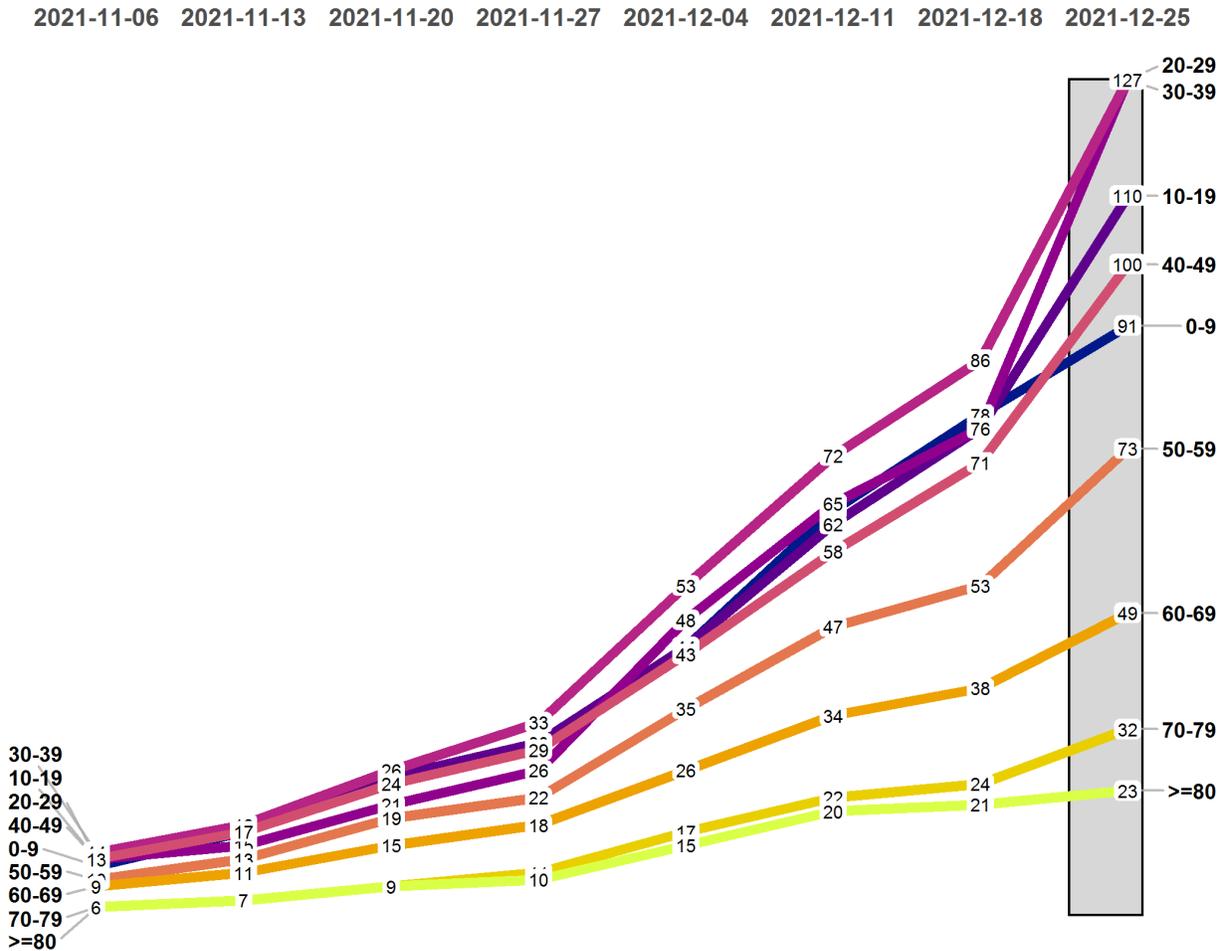


## Average Daily Incidence by Age Group

The chart below shows the average number of new COVID-19 cases per day per 100,000 population by age group. The rates in this chart are calculated by averaging the number of new cases diagnosed each day during the previous two weeks, dividing by the annual population in each age group, and then multiplying by 100,000.

### Average daily rate of COVID-19 cases by age group

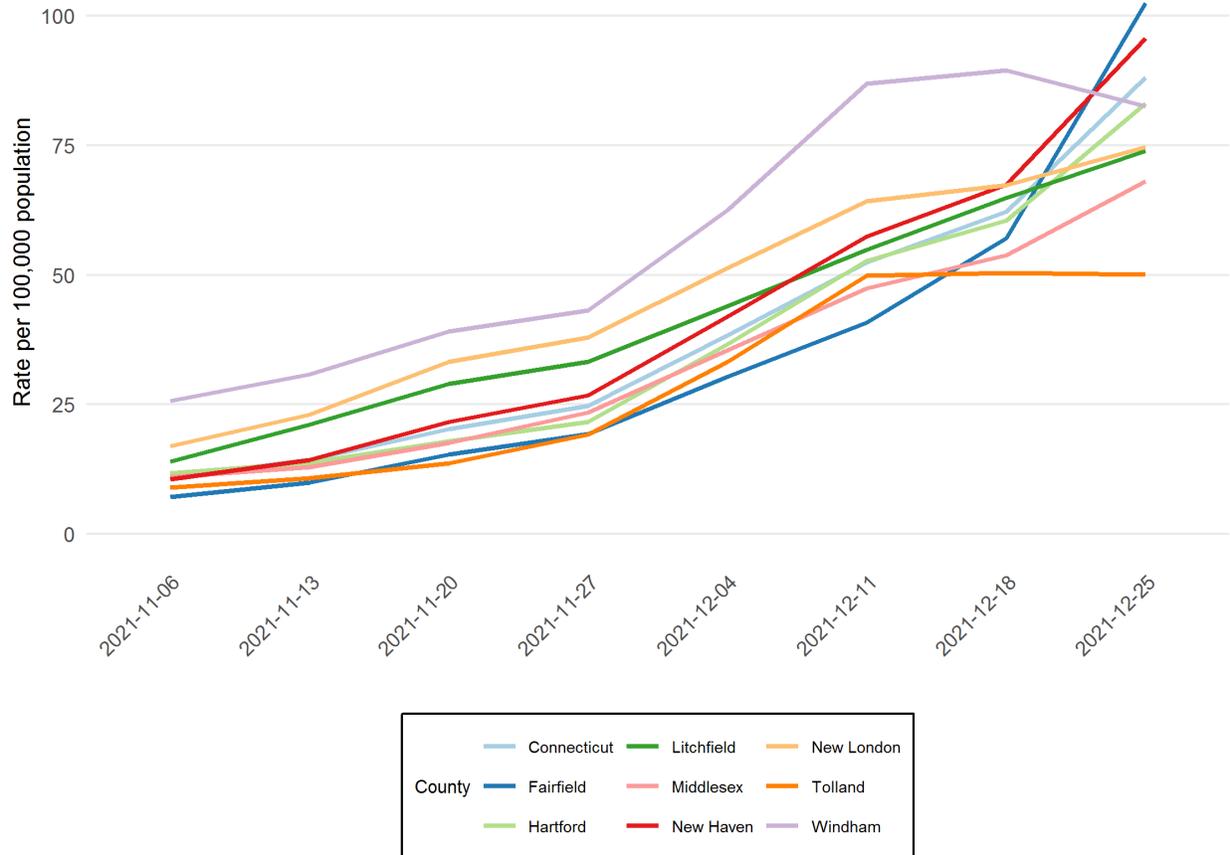
As of 12/29/2021



### Average Daily Incidence by County

The chart below shows the average number of new COVID-19 cases per day per 100,000 population in the state of Connecticut and for each Connecticut county. The rates in this chart are calculated by averaging the number of new cases diagnosed each day during the previous two weeks, dividing by the annual estimated population, and then multiplying by 100,000.

Average daily rates of COVID-19 cases by county  
As of 12/29/2021

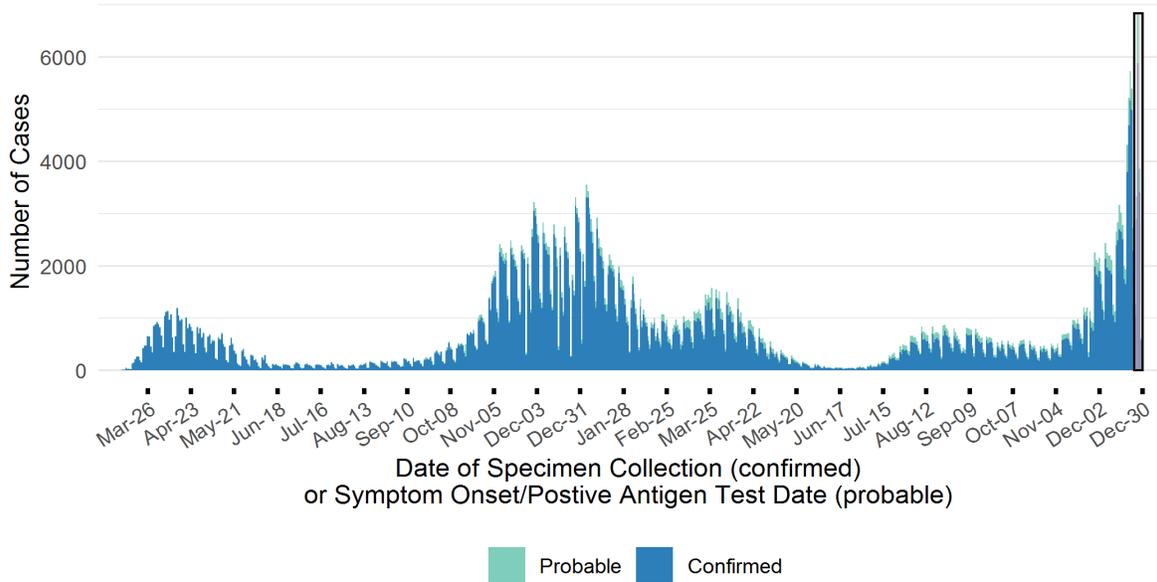


## Cumulative Number of COVID-19 Cases and COVID-19-Associated Deaths by Date

Test results may be reported several days after the result. Data are incomplete for most recent dates shaded in grey. Data from previous dates are routinely updated.

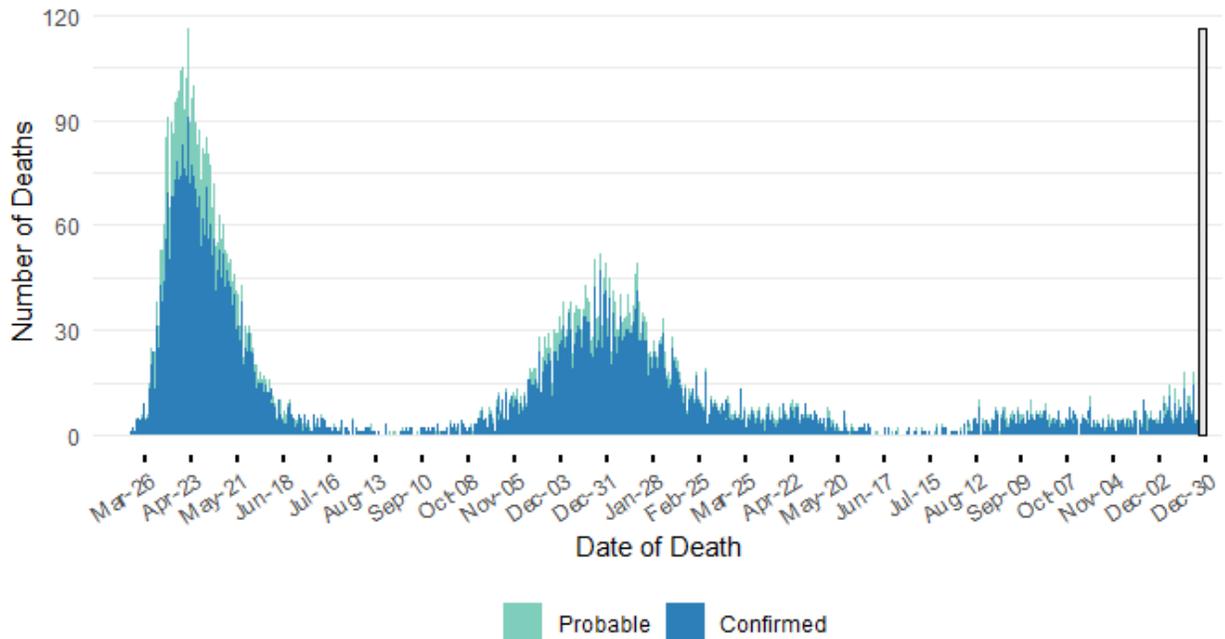
### Number of Confirmed and Probable COVID-19 Cases by Date

As of 12/29/2021



### Number of COVID-19-Associated Deaths by Date of Death

As of 12/29/2021

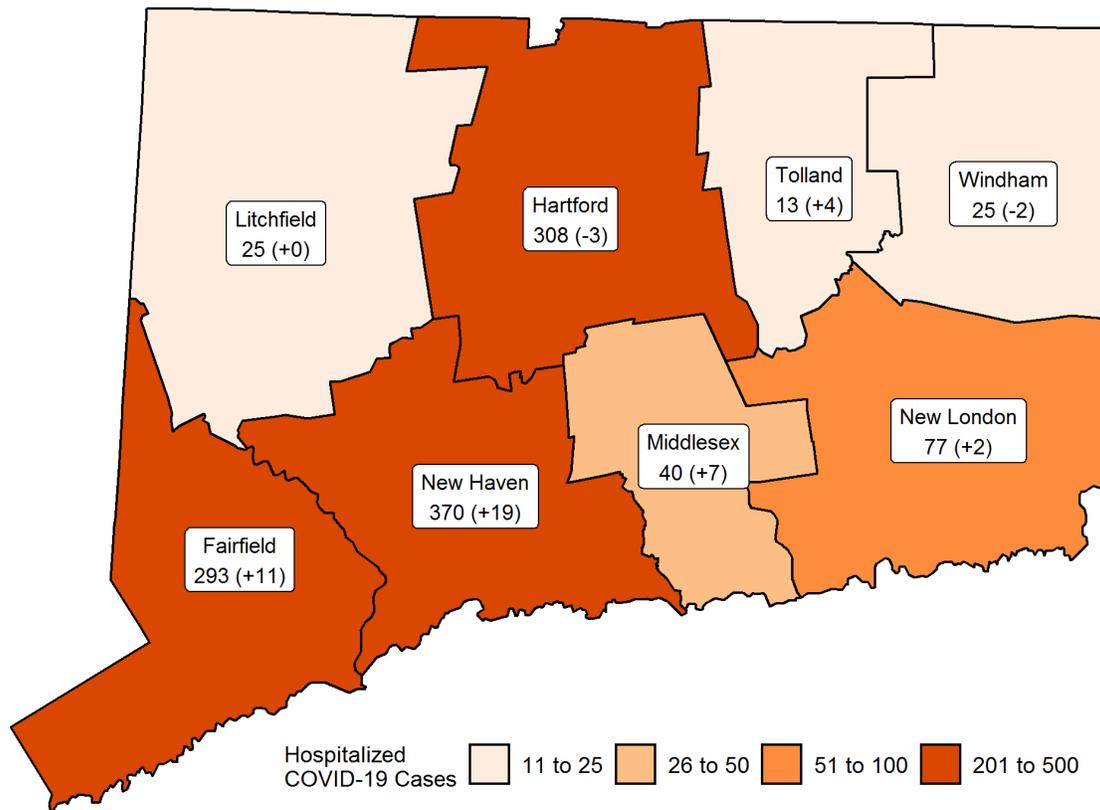


## Hospitalization Surveillance

The map below shows the number of patients currently hospitalized with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 by county based on data collected by the Connecticut Hospital Association. The distribution is by location of hospital, not patient residence. The labels indicate the number of patients currently hospitalized with the change since yesterday in parentheses.

### Patients Currently Hospitalized by Connecticut County

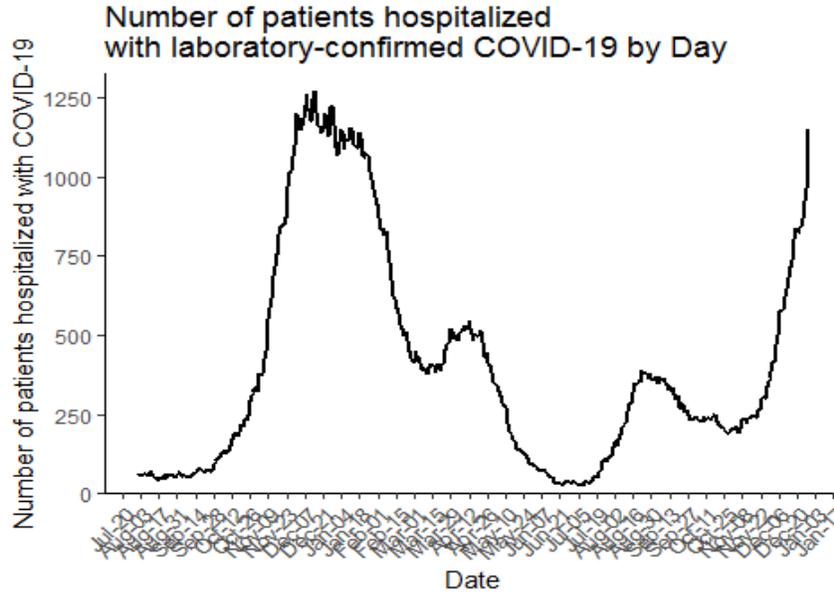
*Distribution by location of hospital not patient residence. Data from the Connecticut Hospital Association.*



More information about hospitalized cases of COVID-19 in New Haven and Middlesex Counties is available from [COVID-NET](#).

### COVID-19 Hospital Census in Connecticut

The chart below shows the COVID-19 hospital census, which is the number of patients currently hospitalized with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 on each day. Data were collected by the Connecticut Hospital Association.

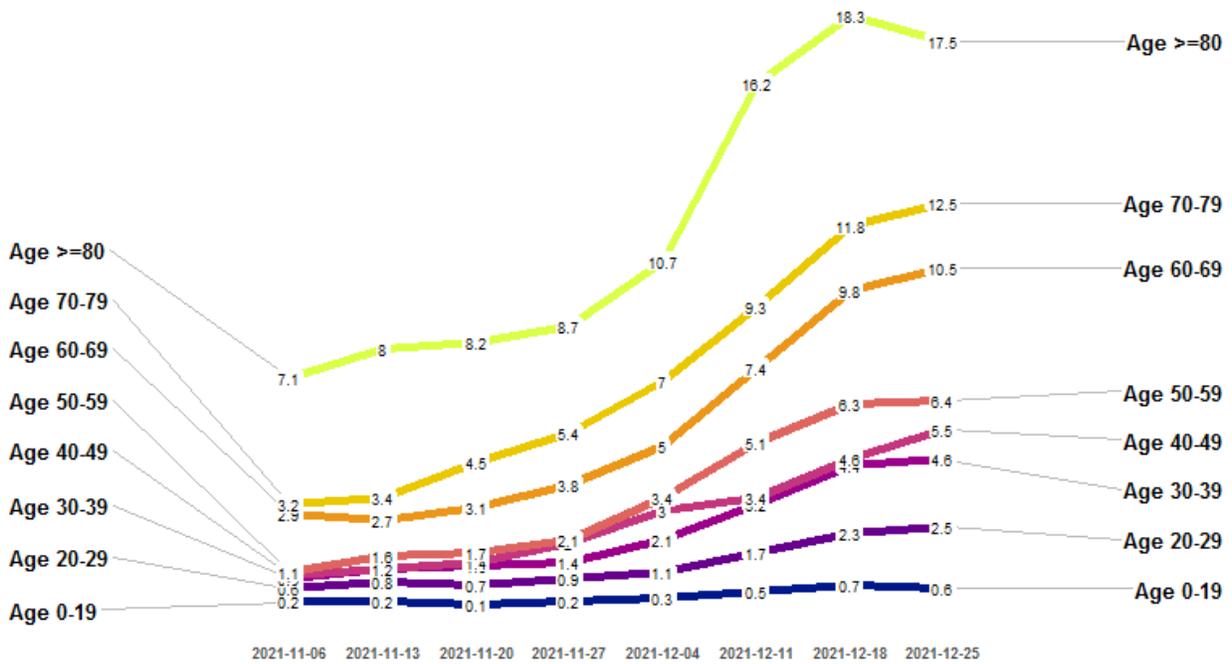


## COVID-19 Admissions

The chart below shows the average daily rate of hospital admissions with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 by age group. The data used to create this plot were gathered from HHS Protect. More information on HHS Protect data can be found here: <https://protect-public.hhs.gov/>.

### Average daily COVID-19 hospital admission rate per 100,000, Connecticut

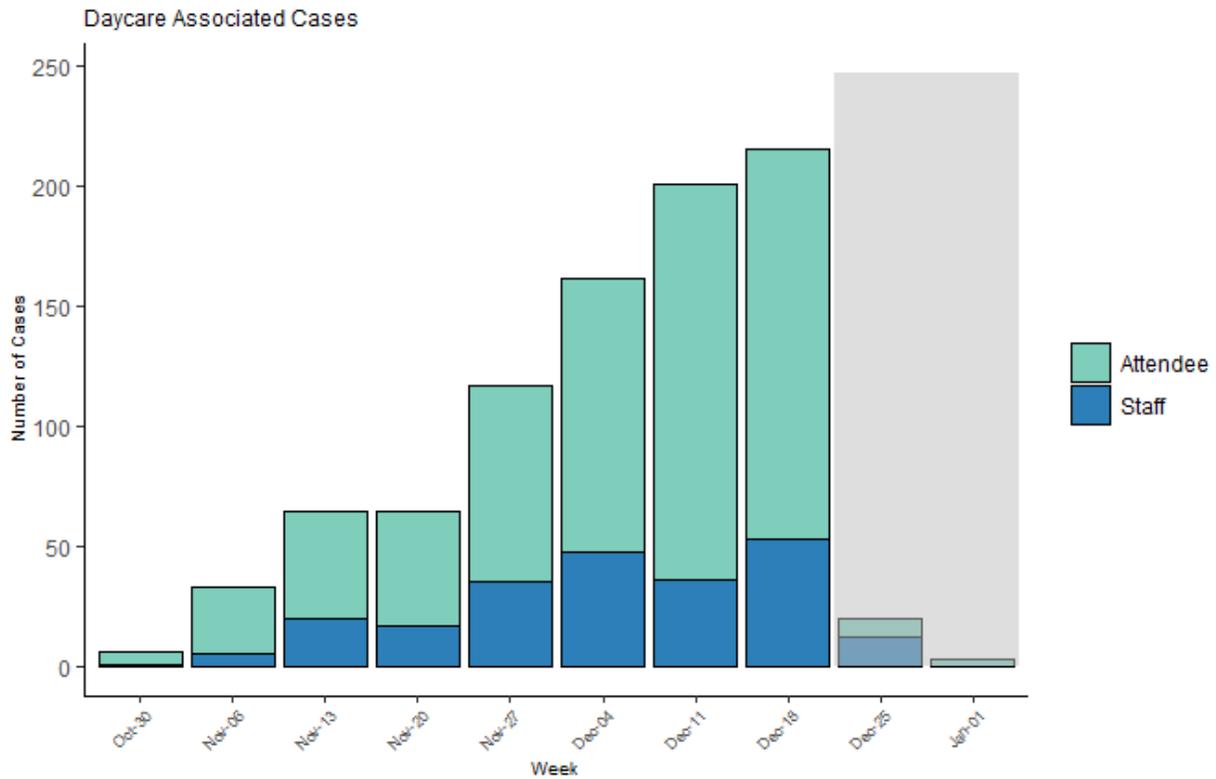
Data from HHS Protect



## Daycare Surveillance

Licensed daycare providers are required to report cases of COVID-19 among attendees and staff to the Department of Public Health (DPH) and the local health department. This figure shows the number of cases among daycare attendees and staff reported to DPH over the last several weeks.

Data are preliminary and like other passive surveillance systems, under reporting occurs and the true incidence of disease is more than the number of cases reported. Data are incomplete for most recent dates shaded in grey.

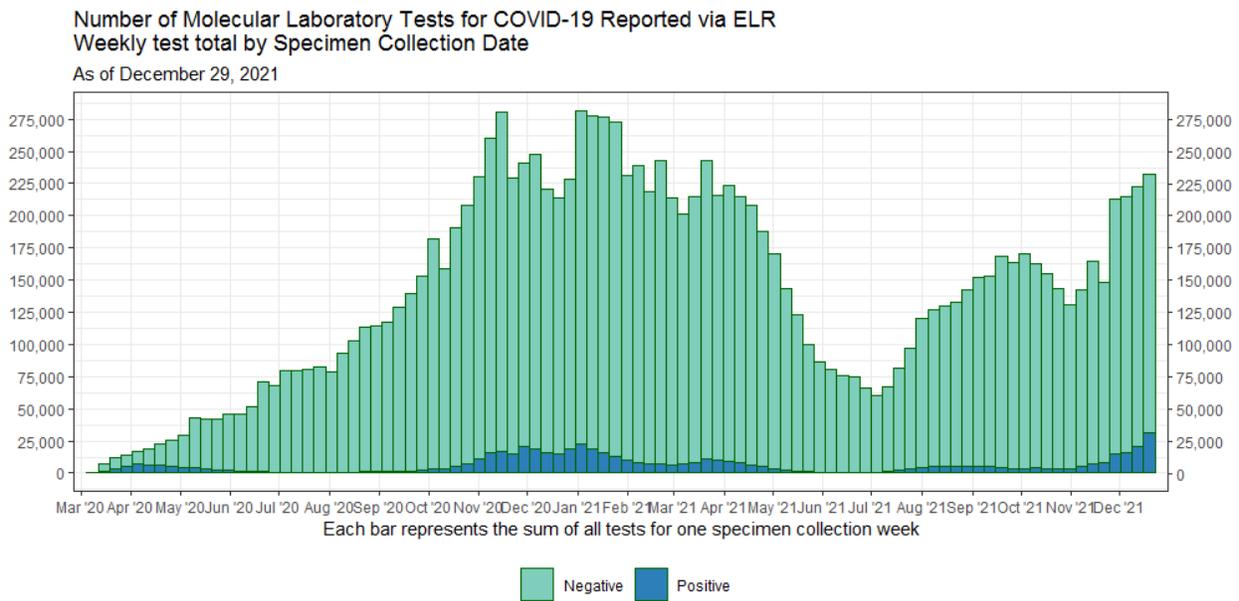


## Laboratory Surveillance

### Molecular Tests

To date, DPH has received reports on a total of 12029418 molecular COVID-19 laboratory tests; of these 11863996 test results were received via electronic laboratory reporting (ELR) methods from commercial laboratories, hospital laboratories, and the Dr. Katherine A. Kelley State Public Health Laboratory. The chart below shows the number of tests reported via ELR by date of specimen collection and test result.

*Test results may be reported several days after specimen collection. Data are incomplete for most recent dates shaded in grey. Data for previous dates are routinely updated.*



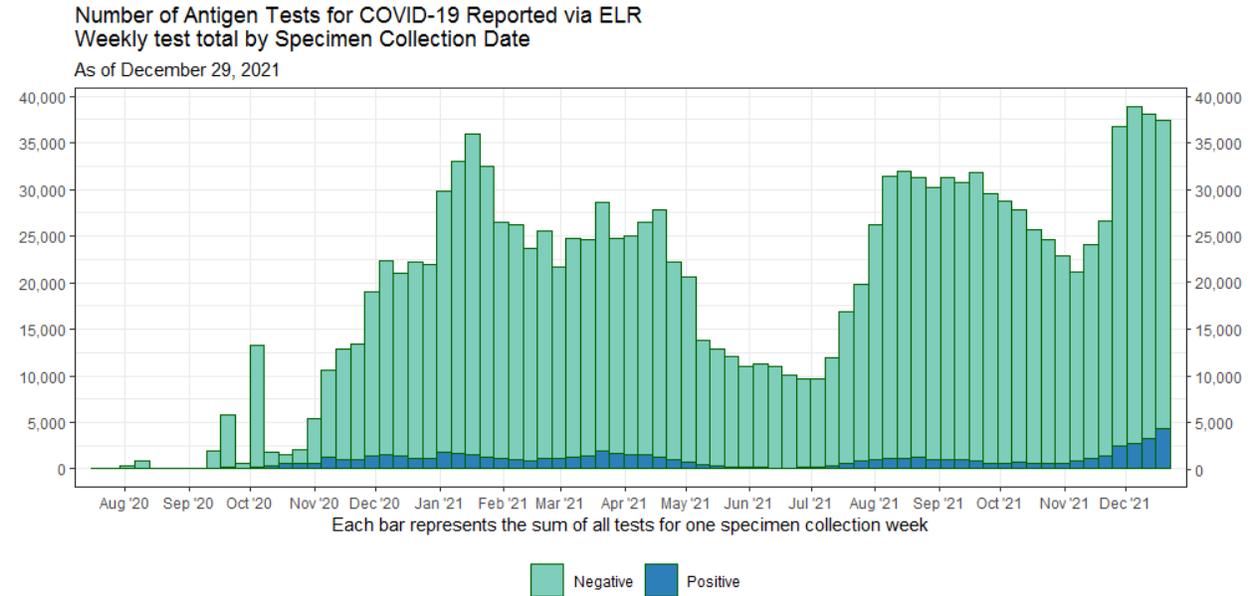
*Testing of recently collected specimens is ongoing and does not reflect a decrease in testing. Chart only includes test results received by electronic laboratory reporting.*

*ELR = Electronic Laboratory Reporting*

## Antigen Tests

To date, DPH has received reports on a total of 1451230 COVID-19 antigen laboratory tests. The chart below shows the number of antigen tests reported to DPH by specimen collection date and test result.

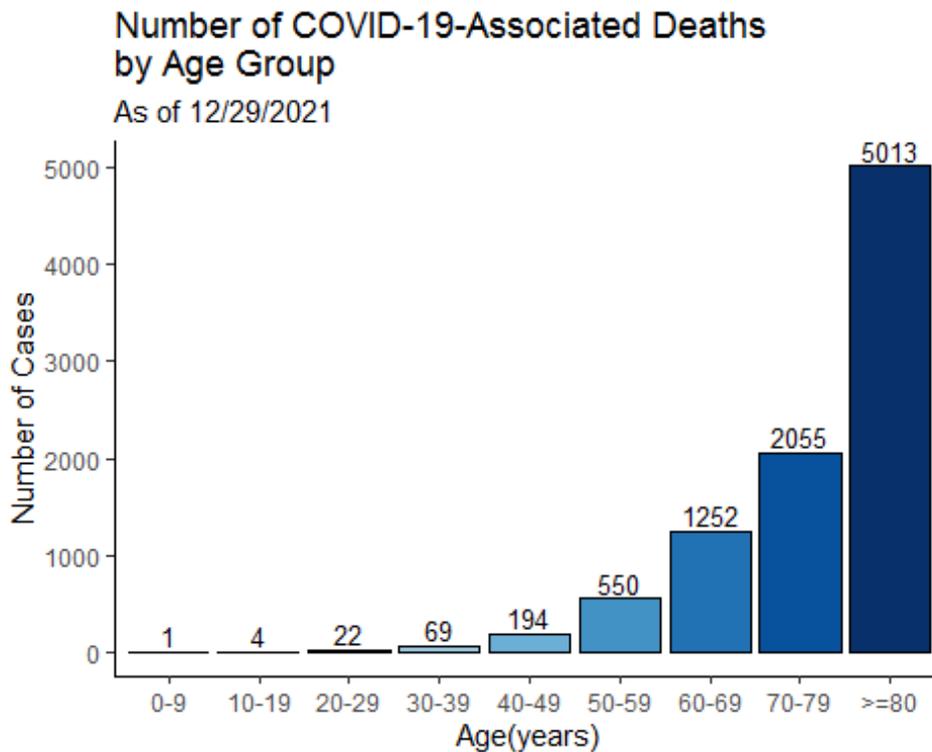
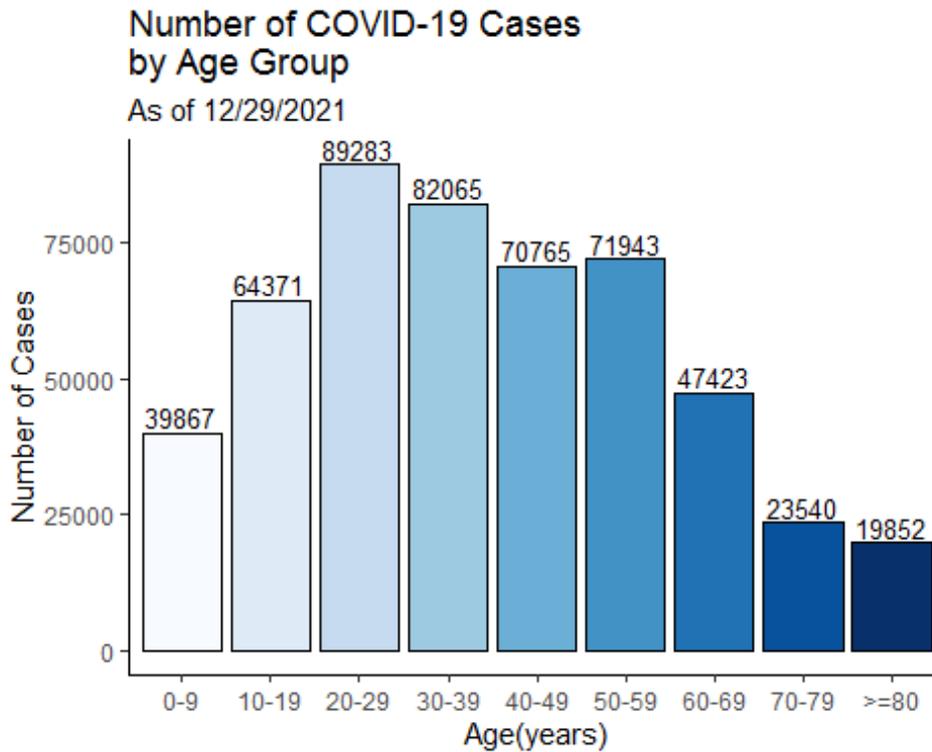
*Test results may be reported several days after specimen collection. Data are incomplete for most recent dates shaded in grey. Data for previous dates are routinely updated.*



*Testing of recently collected specimens is ongoing and does not reflect a decrease in testing.*

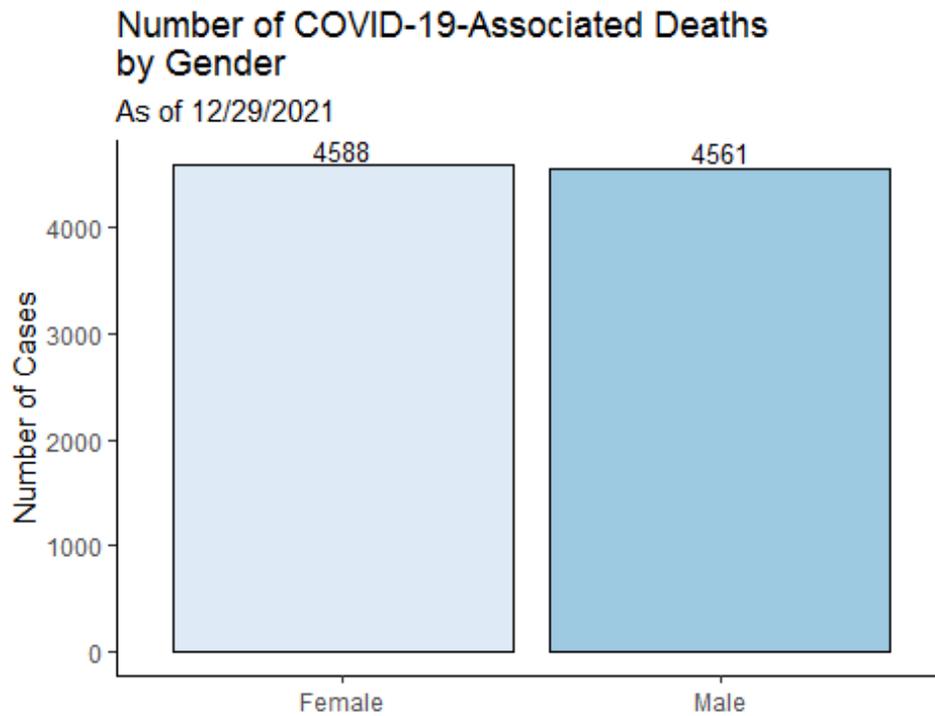
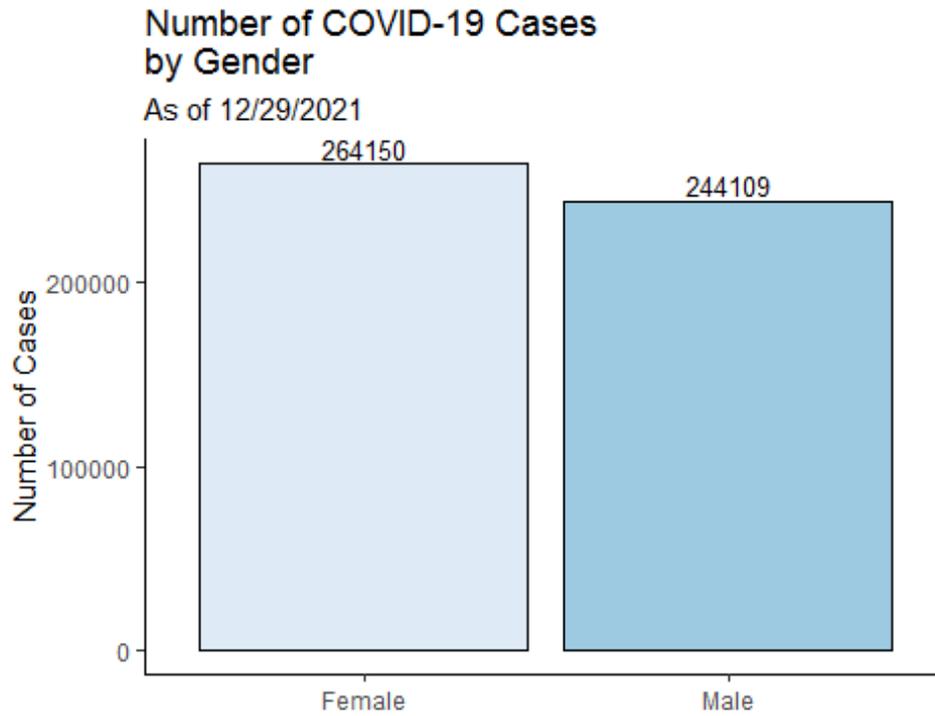
## Characteristics of COVID-19 Cases and Associated Deaths

Counts may not add up to total case count because demographic data may be missing.



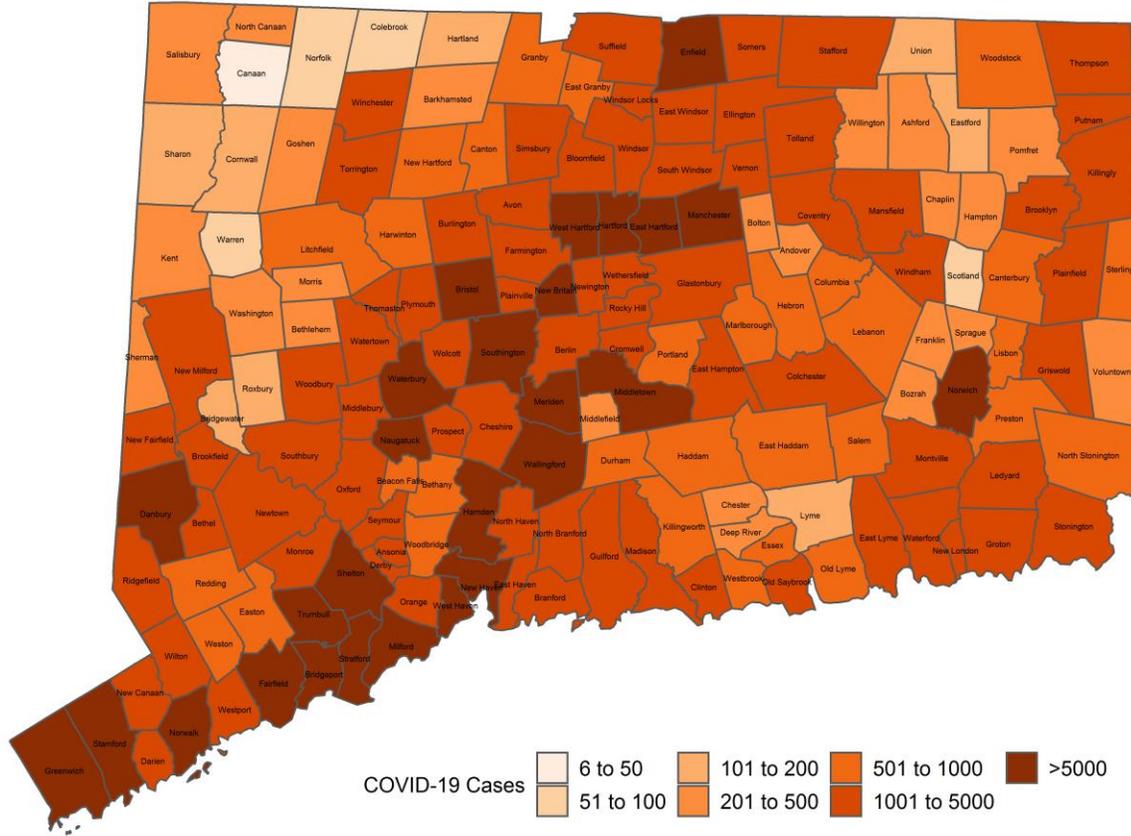
All data are preliminary and subject to change.

Counts may not add up to total case count because demographic data may be missing.



# Cumulative Number of COVID-19 Cases by Town

Map does not include 1880 cases pending address validation

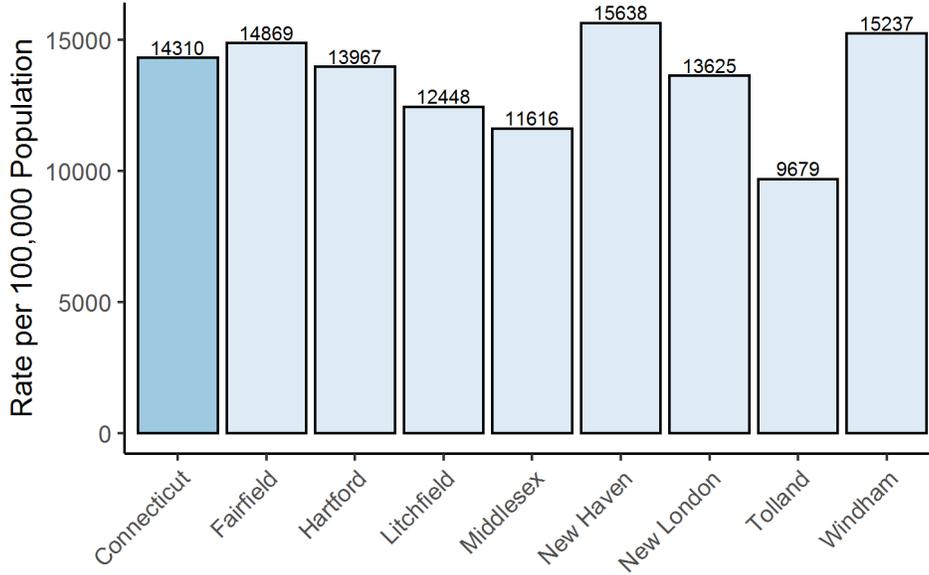


All data are preliminary and subject to change.

**APPENDIX A.** The following graphs show the number of cases per 100,000 Connecticut residents statewide and by county, age group, and gender. Population estimate from: [DPH Population Statistics](#)

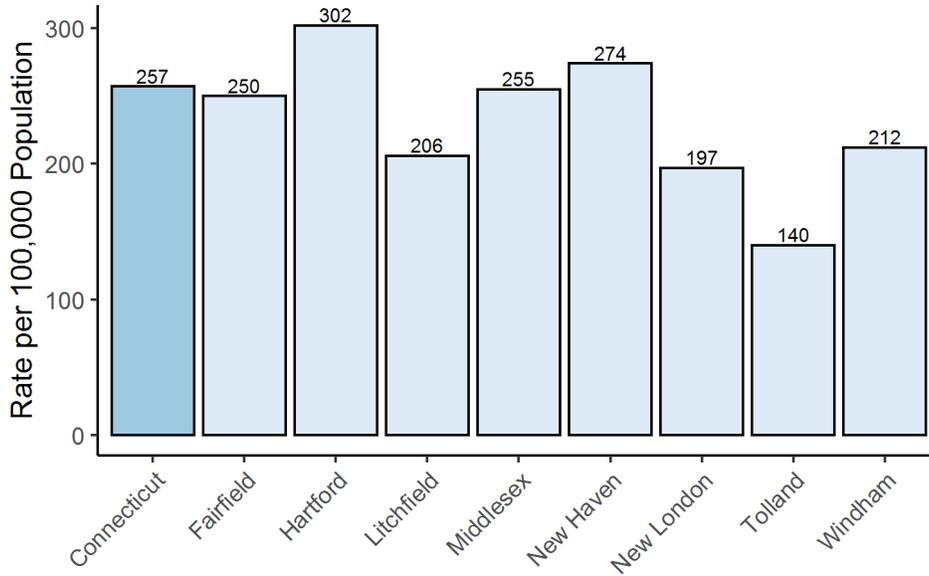
### Rate of COVID-19 Cases Statewide and by County

As of 12/29/2021



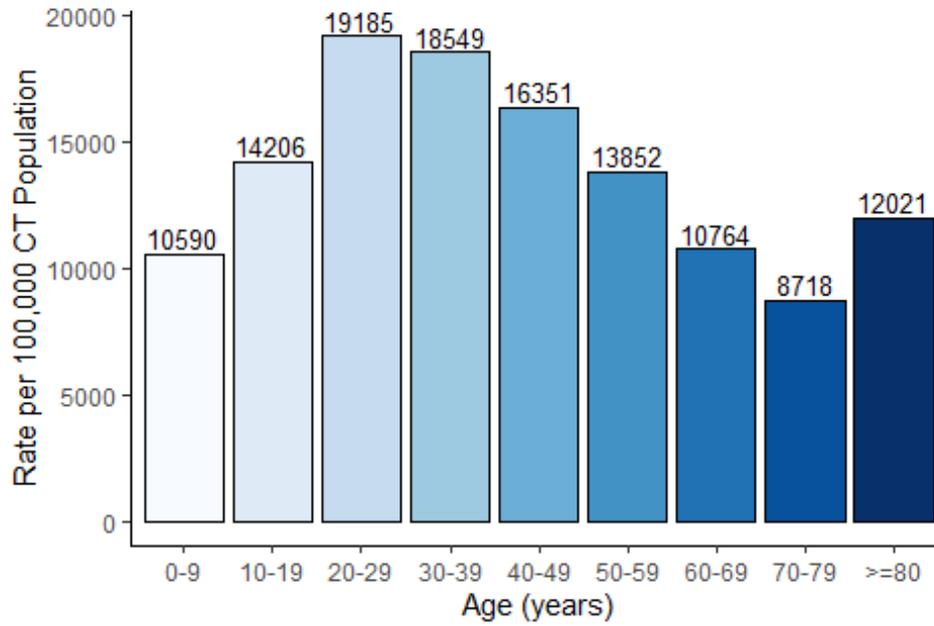
### Rate of COVID-19-Associated Deaths Statewide and by County

As of 12/29/2021



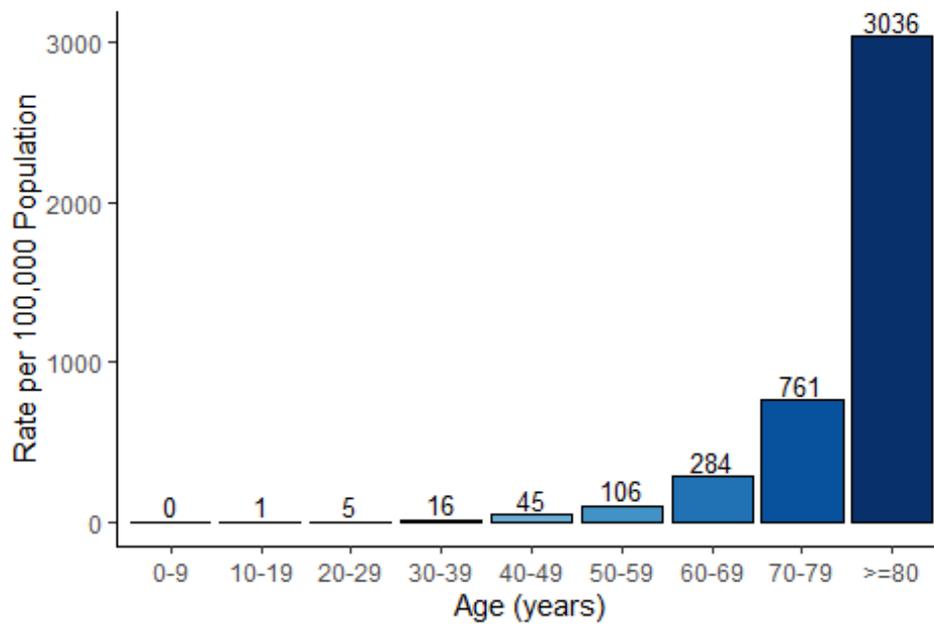
### Rate of COVID-19 Cases by Age Group

As of 12/29/2021



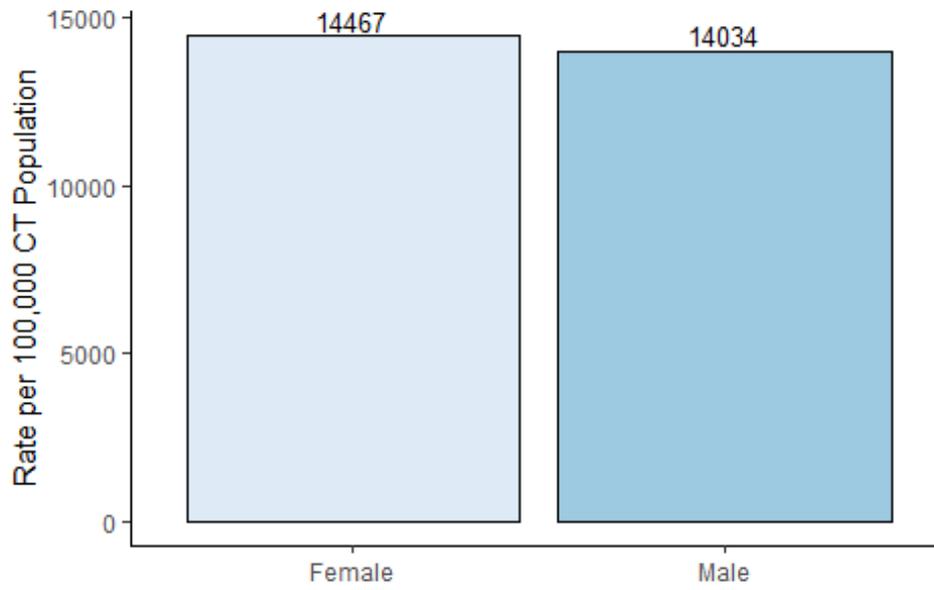
### Rate of COVID-19-Associated Deaths by Age Group

As of 12/29/2021



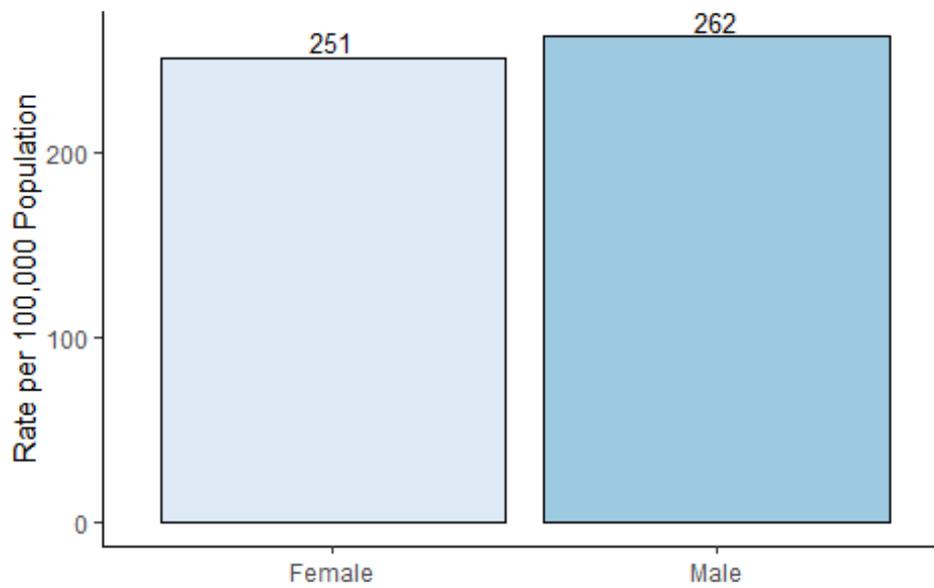
### Rate of COVID-19 Cases by Gender

As of 12/29/2021

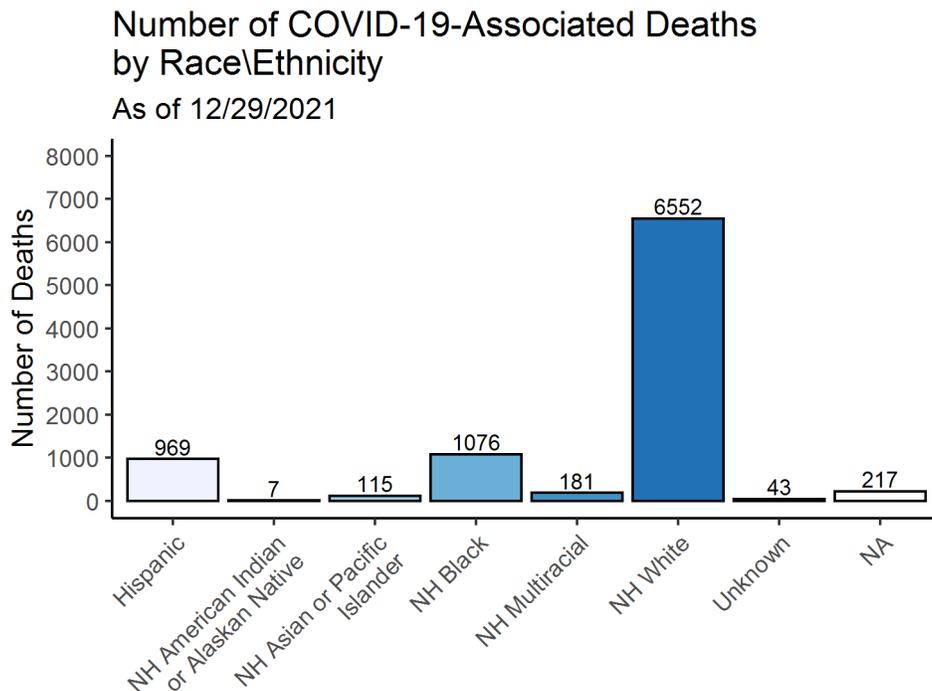
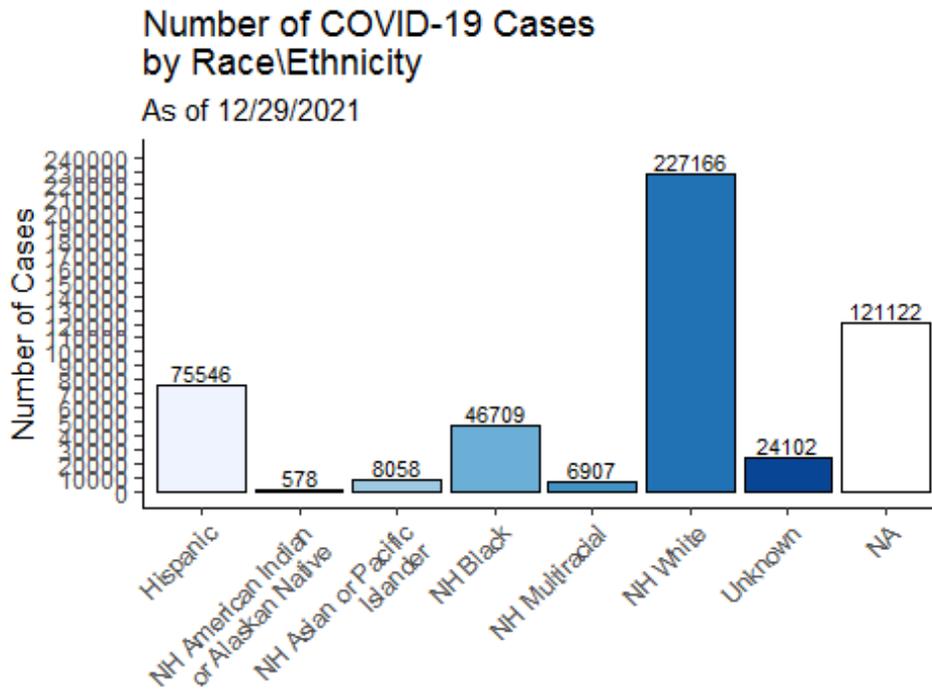


### Rate of COVID-19-Associated Deaths by Gender

As of 12/29/2021

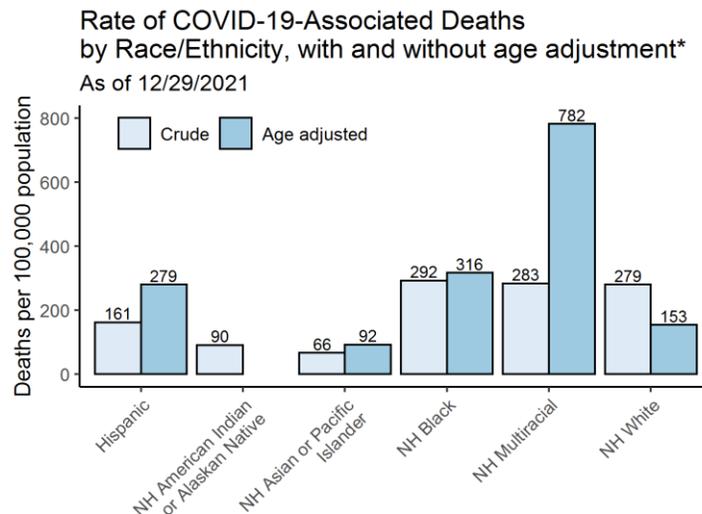
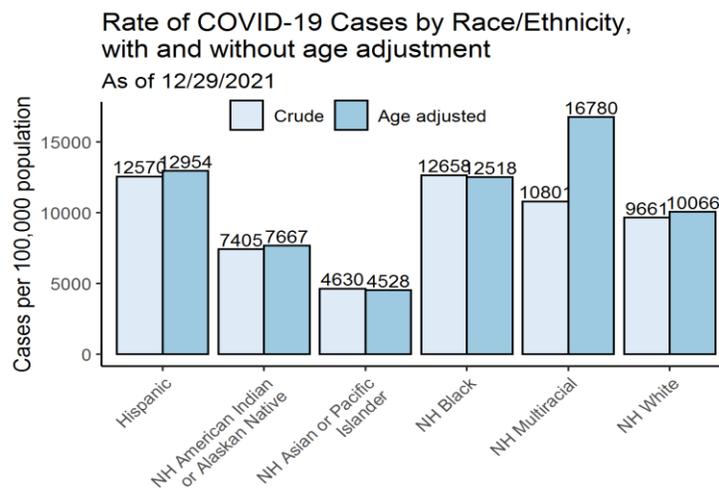


**APPENDIX B.** The following graphs show the number of cases and deaths by race and ethnicity. Categories are mutually exclusive. The category “multiracial” includes people who answered ‘yes’ to more than one race category. NH=Non-Hispanic



The following graphs show the number of COVID-19 cases and COVID-19-associated deaths per 100,000 population by race and ethnicity. Crude rates represent the total cases or deaths per 100,000 people. Age-adjusted rates consider the age of the person at diagnosis or death when estimating the rate and use a standardized population to provide a fair comparison between population groups with different age distributions. Age-adjustment is important in Connecticut as the median age of among the non-Hispanic white population is 47 years, whereas it is 34 years among non-Hispanic blacks, and 29 years among Hispanics. Because most non-Hispanic white residents who died were over 75 years of age, the age-adjusted rates are lower than the unadjusted rates. In contrast, Hispanic residents who died tend to be younger than 75 years of age which results in higher age-adjusted rates.

The 2018 Connecticut and 2000 US Standard Million populations were used for age adjustment; population estimates from: [DPH Population Statistics](#). Categories are mutually exclusive. Cases missing data on race/ethnicity are excluded from calculation of rates. NH=Non-Hispanic



\*Age adjusted rates only calculated for groups with at least 30 deaths